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CASCHERA, ANTONIO A				
HAYNES AND BOONE, LLP 901 MAIN STREET, SUITE 3100 DALLAS, TX 75202			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2676	7

DATE MAILED: 02/20/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/027,945

Applicant(s)

LEE, DALSU

Examiner

Antonio A Caschera

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 December 2003.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 4 and 5 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3 and 6-21 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 20 December 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Information Disclosure Statement***

1. The information disclosure statement filed 10/21/2002 fails to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97, 1.98 and MPEP § 609 because certain citations (in particular citation no. AB, AC, AD, AF and AH) fail to include specific publication dates. It has been placed in the application file, but the information referred to therein has not been considered as to the merits. Applicant is advised that the date of any re-submission of any item of information contained in this information disclosure statement or the submission of any missing element(s) will be the date of submission for purposes of determining compliance with the requirements based on the time of filing the statement, including all certification requirements for statements under 37 CFR 1.97(e). See MPEP § 609 ¶ C(1).

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1-3 and 17-20 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fiszman et al. (U.S. Patent 6,115,646).

In reference to claim 1, Fiszman et al. discloses a generic process automation engine (GPAE) incorporated into a system to provide workflow management services in a computing

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environment (see lines 1-4 of abstract). Note, the office interprets the automation system of Fiszman et al. to be substantially similar to the application builder of applicant's claims because the system of Fiszman et al. is substantially building a managing application for control over the processes of the computer system. Fiszman et al. discloses inputting process definitions into the automation system which includes a graphical user interface (see column 5, lines 11-15 and Figure 5). Fiszman et al. further discloses displaying the process definition in a graphical user interface window using a graph of multiple work items connected with links (see column 14, lines 43-50 and #160, 170, 171 of Figure 9). Note, the office interprets the work items displayed in the process definition graph to be substantially similar to icons as the user has the ability to drag the work items which, when moved, effect linked work items (see columns 14-15, lines 50-13). Fiszman et al. also discloses creating an activity definition for the process which defines the flow of the process (see column 16, lines 42-65 and Figure 13). Note, the office interprets an atomic unit of work, which is represented by an activity definition (see column 16, lines 43-45), substantially similar to the script of applicant's claims. Fiszman et al. discloses performing the atomic unit of work by defining the starting and stopping of an execution (see columns 16-17, lines 66-5). Fiszman et al. does not explicitly disclose executing the script using a virtual machine with reflection however, at the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to implement a virtual machine with reflection in the system of Fiszman et al. especially if the managed processes were web-based. Applicant has not disclosed that utilizing a virtual machine with reflection to execute a script provides an advantage, is used for a particular purpose, or solves a stated problem. One of ordinary skill in the art, furthermore, would have expected Applicant's invention to perform equally well with the

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GPAE processing of Fiszman et al. because virtual machines using reflection are utilized in JAVA, a language used at the preference of the designer and which might best suit the application at hand. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in this art to modify Fiszman et al. to obtain the invention as specified in claim 1 (See also, Response to Arguments below). Also, in reference to claim 6, Fiszman et al. discloses the GPAE able to accept process definition inputs and a "build time" operating section, in order to create process and activity definitions (see #10, 12 and 22 of Figure 1).

In reference to claims 2 and 3, Fiszman et al. discloses all of the claim limitations as applied to claim 1 above. Fiszman et al. does not explicitly disclose generating the script using a markup language or an extensible markup language however, at the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to utilize a markup type language in generating the activities of Fiszman et al. if the activities involved web-based processing. Applicant has not disclosed that using a markup language (a conventionally non-script language) provides an advantage, is used for a particular purpose, or solves a stated problem. One of ordinary skill in the art, furthermore, would have expected Applicant's invention to perform equally well with the current coding style of Fiszman et al. because different applications may require the use of different programming languages for example, accessing a UNIX based server may require different commands than accessing a Windows based server. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in this art to modify Fiszman et al. to obtain the invention as specified in claims 2 and 3.

In reference to claim 17, Fiszman et al. discloses a generic process automation engine (GPAE) incorporated into a system to provide workflow management services in a computing

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environment (see lines 1-4 of abstract). Note, Fiszman et al. does not explicitly disclose selecting an application to process the request however it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to select an application to process a request as it is well known in the art that different applications process different files utilizing different resources which maybe requested for execution (Official Notice) (see Response to Arguments below). Fiszman et al. discloses receiving an input in the form of a request to the engine to run a process (see column 5, lines 35-36). Fiszman et al. discloses receiving process definitions which represent an operational flow of the process (see column 5, lines 11-15 and #12 of Figure 1). Although Fiszman et al. also discloses executing the processes using the GPAE (see column 5, lines 61-67), Fiszman et al. does not explicitly disclose executing the selected application by interpreting the script and using a virtual machine with reflection. At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to implement a virtual machine with reflection in the system of Fiszman et al. especially if the managed processes were web-based. Applicant has not disclosed that utilizing a virtual machine with reflection to execute a script provides an advantage, is used for a particular purpose, or solves a stated problem. One of ordinary skill in the art, furthermore, would have expected Applicant's invention to perform equally well with the GPAE processing of Fiszman et al. because virtual machines using reflection are utilized in JAVA, a language used at the preference of the designer and which might best suit the application at hand. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in this art to modify Fiszman et al. to obtain the invention as specified in claim 17.

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In reference to claim 18, claim 18 is similar in scope to the combination of claims 1 and 8 and therefore is rejected under similar rationale. Further, Fiszman et al. does not explicitly disclose computer-readable medium having computer-readable instructions for performing the methods of claims 1 and 8 however, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to implement a computer-readable medium containing computer-readable instructions for executing the methods of Fiszman et al. as computers are well known in the art to comprise of such components of which. Further, a computer lacking such components would not be able to execute or process any data (Official Notice) (see Response to Arguments below).

In reference to claim 19, Fiszman et al. discloses all of the claim limitations as applied to claim 18 above. Claim 19 is similar in scope to claim 9 and therefore is rejected under similar rationale. Further, see claim 18 rejection in regards to the computer-readable medium and instructions.

In reference to claim 20, Fiszman et al. discloses all of the claim limitations as applied to claim 19 above. Fiszman et al. does not explicitly disclose executing the selected application by interpreting the script and using a virtual machine with reflection. At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to implement a virtual machine with reflection in the system of Fiszman et al. especially if the managed processes were web-based. Applicant has not disclosed that utilizing a virtual machine with reflection to execute a script provides an advantage, is used for a particular purpose, or solves a stated problem. One of ordinary skill in the art, furthermore, would have expected Applicant's invention to perform equally well with the GPAE processing of Fiszman et al. because virtual

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machines using reflection are utilized in JAVA, a language used at the preference of the designer and which might best suit the application at hand. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in this art to modify Fiszman et al. to obtain the invention as specified in claim 20 (see Response to Arguments for claims 1 and 6 below). Further, see claim 18 rejection in regards to the computer-readable medium and instructions.

3. Claims 6-16 and 21 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fiszman et al. (U.S. Patent 6,115,646) in view of Shaw et al. (U.S. Patent 6,362,836 B1).

In reference to claims 6 and 21, Fiszman et al. discloses a generic process automation engine (GPAE) incorporated into a system to provide workflow management services in a computing environment (see lines 1-4 of abstract). Note, the office interprets the automation system of Fiszman et al. to be substantially similar to the application builder of applicant's claims because the system of Fiszman et al. is substantially building a managing application for control over the processes of the computer system. Fiszman et al. discloses inputting process definitions into the automation system which includes a graphical user interface (see column 5, lines 11-15 and Figure 5). Fiszman et al. further discloses displaying the process definition in a graphical user interface window using a graph of multiple work items connected with links (see column 14, lines 43-50 and #160, 170, 171 of Figure 9). Note, the office interprets the work items displayed in the process definition graph to be substantially similar to icons as the user has the ability to drag the work items which, when moved, effect linked work items (see columns 14-15, lines 50-13). Fiszman et al. also discloses creating an activity definition for the process which defines the flow of the process (see column 16, lines 42-65 and Figure 13). Note, the office interprets an atomic unit of work, which is represented by an activity definition (see



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column 16, lines 43-45), substantially similar to the script of applicant's claims. Fiszman et al. discloses performing the atomic unit of work by defining the starting and stopping of an execution (see columns 16-17, lines 66-5). Fiszman et al. does not explicitly disclose executing the script using a virtual machine with reflection however, at the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to implement a virtual machine with reflection in the system of Fiszman et al. especially if the managed processes were web-based. Applicant has not disclosed that utilizing a virtual machine with reflection to execute a script provides an advantage, is used for a particular purpose, or solves a stated problem. One of ordinary skill in the art, furthermore, would have expected Applicant's invention to perform equally well with the GPAE processing of Fiszman et al. because virtual machines using reflection are utilized in JAVA, a language used at the preference of the designer and which might best suit the application at hand. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in this art to modify Fiszman et al. to obtain the invention as specified in claims 6 and 21 (See also, Response to Arguments below). Fiszman et al. further discloses the GPAE able to accept process definition inputs and a "build time" operating section, in order to create process and activity definitions (see #10, 12 and 22 of Figure 1). Fiszman et al. however, does not explicitly disclose an application server configured to suspend an operating thread of the script however Shaw et al. does. Shaw et al. discloses a universal application server connected in a client server environment (see column 4, lines 5-11 and 32-34). Shaw et al. discloses the universal application server configured to suspend the instance of an application running and initiated by a user (see column 14, lines 32-39 of Shaw et al.). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to implement the process and

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workflow management system of Fiszman et al. with the application server capabilities of Shaw et al. in order to create a more efficient distributed processing system, balancing and managing loads and sessions in a client server network environment (see columns 3-4, lines 66-3 of Shaw et al.) releasing unused resources.

In reference to claim 7, Fiszman et al. and Shaw et al. disclose all of the claim limitations as applied to claim 6 above. Neither Fiszman et al. nor Shaw et al. explicitly disclose generating the script using a markup language or an extensible markup language (conventionally non-script programming languages) however, at the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to utilize a markup type language in generating the activities of Fiszman et al. if the activities involved web-based processing. Applicant has not disclosed that using a markup language (a conventionally non-script language) provides an advantage, is used for a particular purpose, or solves a stated problem. One of ordinary skill in the art, furthermore, would have expected Applicant's invention to perform equally well with the current coding style of Fiszman et al. because different applications may require the use of different programming languages for example, accessing a UNIX based server may require different commands than accessing a Windows based server. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in this art to modify Fiszman et al. to obtain the invention as specified in claim 7.

In reference to claim 8, Fiszman et al. and Shaw et al. disclose all of the claim limitations as applied to claim 6 above in addition, Fiszman et al. discloses a repository for storing process and activity definitions (see column 9, lines 51-54 and #82 of Figure 3).

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In reference to claim 9, Fiszman et al. and Shaw et al. disclose all of the claim limitations as applied to claim 6 above in addition, Fiszman et al. discloses the automation system connected, via a computer network, to user workstations (see column 9, lines 58-61). Note, the office interprets the system of Fiszman et al. substantially similar to the application server of applicant's claim as the system of Fiszman et al. is accessible over a computer network and executes activities or units of work.

In reference to claim 10, Fiszman et al. and Shaw et al. disclose all of the claim limitations as applied to claim 6 above in addition, Fiszman et al. discloses the process definition to comprise of one or more programmable work items which are depicted in Figure 9 as substantially similar to "icons" (see column 14, lines 49-50 and #150, 152, 154, 163, 158, 170, 171 of Figure 9).

In reference to claim 11, Fiszman et al. and Shaw et al. disclose all of the claim limitations as applied to claim 10 above in addition, Fiszman et al. discloses the work items to possibly be sub-processes which the office interprets as substantially similar to sub-objects (see column 14, lines 50-53).

In reference to claim 12, Fiszman et al. and Shaw et al. disclose all of the claim limitations as applied to claim 10 above in addition, Fiszman et al. discloses the work items to possibly be sub-processes which the office interprets as substantially similar to sub-objects (see column 14, lines 50-53). Note these processes are seen as substantially similar to methods, by the office.

In reference to claims 13-16, Fiszman et al. and Shaw et al. disclose all of the claim limitations as applied to claim 6 above. Neither Fiszman et al. nor Shaw et al. explicitly disclose

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the object providing functionality for an automatic call distribution system, an interactive voice response system, electronic mail system or a website server however, at the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the managing of processes of the system of Fiszman et al. to apply to the above systems as the system of Fiszman et al. allows for the definition of processes and activities (see Figures 9 and 13 of Fiszman et al.). Applicant has not disclosed that the object providing functionality for an automatic call distribution system, an interactive voice response system, electronic mail system or a website server provides an advantage or solves a stated problem. One of ordinary skill in the art, furthermore, would have expected Applicant's invention to perform equally well with the process and activity definitions of Fiszman et al. because the management of telephonic, voice, electronic mail systems and websites could be accomplished with the system of Fiszman et al. by editing the content of the process and activity definitions. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in this art to modify Fiszman et al. to obtain the invention as specified in claims 13-16.

#### ***Response to Arguments***

4. The cancellation of claims 4 and 5 is noted.
5. Applicant's arguments, see page 7, section I, filed 12/22/2003, with respect to the disclosure have been fully considered and are persuasive. The objection of the disclosure has been withdrawn since minor informalities have been corrected.

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6. Applicant's arguments, see page 7, section II, filed 12/22/2003, with respect to the objection to claim 1 have been fully considered and are persuasive. The objection of claim 1 has been withdrawn since minor informalities have been corrected.

7. Applicant's arguments filed 12/22/2003 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

In reference to claims 1 and 6, the applicant solely argues that the Fiszman reference does not anticipate the subject matter of claims 1 or 6 (see section III, pages 7 and 8 of Applicant's Remarks). Applicant's arguments fail to comply with 37 CFR 1.111(b) because they amount to a general allegation that the claims define a patentable invention without specifically pointing out how the language of the claims patentably distinguishes them from the references. The office produces a new grounds of rejection based upon the amendments made to claims 1 and 6. In particular, claim 1 was amended to include all of the claim limitations of cancelled claims 4 and 5 which was previously rejected based upon design choice reasoning. On page 9 of Applicant's Remarks, the applicant requests the examiner cite references in support of such reasoning however, the office believes evidence supporting such reasoning to be present within the specification of applicant's invention. For example, in regards to the newly added claim limitation of claim 1, "executing the script using a virtual machine with reflection," (see line 9 of claim 1), the office points to page 5, paragraph 22 of the specification. In this paragraph, the applicant describes an application server as a software application, "...that is capable of executing the commands contained in the scripts..." The applicant goes on to describe how the application server, "...can be coupled to any form of application platform which can be of any form of hardware and/or software system." The office deems that there is no criticality to use a

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certain type of virtual machine or execution means since the above passages of the specification suggest a variety of different usages with different hardware/software platforms. Therefore, the office maintains it's previous rejection and reasoning based upon design choice (See *Ex parte Clapp*, 227 USPQ 972 (Bd. Pat. App. & Inter. 1985)).

In reference to claims 2, 3 and 7, the applicant requests the examiner cite references in support of such reasoning (see page 9 of Applicant's Remarks) however, the office believes evidence supporting such reasoning to be present within the specification of applicant's invention. Claims 2 and 3 recite the limitation of generating the script using a specific type of coding language ("markup" language in claim 2 and "extensible markup" language in claim 3). The office points to page 9, paragraph 34 of the specification where it is stated that scripts are capable of being generated in, "...different formats compatible with a variety of scripting languages, including XML (extensible markup language), JavaScript and VBScript..." The office deems that there is no criticality to use a specific programming language since the above passage of the specification suggests the use of a variety of different coding languages performing equally well for creating scripts. Therefore, the office maintains it's previous rejection and reasoning based upon design choice (See *Ex parte Clapp*, 227 USPQ 972 (Bd. Pat. App. & Inter. 1985)).

In reference to claim 13-16, the applicant requests the examiner cite references in support of such reasoning (see page 9 of Applicant's Remarks) however, the office believes evidence supporting such reasoning to be present within the specification of applicant's invention. Claims 13-16 recite specific functionalities or uses for the objects of the system. The office points to page 5, paragraph 23 of the specification where example "...scenarios in which the present

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invention may be employed,” are given. These scenarios include the limitations of claims 13-16, “an automatic call distribution system,” “an interactive voice response system,” “an electronic mail system,” and “a web server.” The office deems that there is no criticality to use the objections of the programming system to represent one specific system entity since the above passage of the specification suggests the use of a variety of different representations of objects. Further, some of the applicant’s claims read, “A method of building a generic application...” the “generic application”, being however, a matter of design choice or to the scope of the designer’s choice. Therefore, the office maintains it’s previous rejection and reasoning based upon design choice (See *Ex parte Clapp*, 227 USPQ 972 (Bd. Pat. App. & Inter. 1985)).

In reference to claim 17, the applicant requests the examiner cite references in support of such reasoning (see page 9 of Applicant’s Remarks) therefore the office exhibits the Shaw et al. (U.S. Patent 6,362,836 B1) reference to provide evidence for the above “well known in the art” statement. As mentioned above, Shaw et al. discloses a universal application server connected in a client server environment (see column 4, lines 5-11 and 32-34). Shaw et al. also discloses the application server receiving a client (user) choice of running a specific application, locating the application program within the server and launching an instance of the application program to take place (see column 4, lines 44-52). Again, this reference is not to be considered new art applied to create a new rejection and instead is simply introduced to satisfy the applicant’s request for additional art to support the examiner’s position.

In reference to claim 18, the applicant requests the examiner cite references in support of such reasoning (see page 9 of Applicant’s Remarks) therefore the office exhibits the Pruitt (U.S. Patent 6,179,490 B1) reference to provide evidence for the above “well known in the art”

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statement. Pruitt discloses a method and apparatus of creating a structured flowchart representing a structured program (see lines 1-4 of abstract). Pruitt discloses a CPU executing program code for implementing the invention, the program code stored in ROM (see column 3, lines 61-63 of Pruitt). Note, the office sees the ROM of Pruitt substantially similar to the “computer-readable medium” of applicant’s claims, storing the program code which is seen as substantially similar to applicant’s “computer-executable instructions.” Again, this reference is not to be considered new art applied to create a new rejection and instead is simply introduced to satisfy the applicant’s request for additional art to support the examiner’s position.

In reference to claim 19, claim 19 is substantially similar to claim 9 and therefore is rejected in a similar manner. The office maintains its’ rejection upon claim 19 as Fiszman et al. discloses the automation system connected, via a computer network, to user workstations (see column 9, lines 58-61) which the office interprets substantially similar to the application server of applicant’s claim as the system of Fiszman et al. is accessible over a computer network and executes activities or units of work.

In reference to claim 20, the office applies similar rationale, in response to Applicant’s Remarks, to claim 20 as shown above for claims 1 and 6.

#### ***References Cited***

8. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure:

- a. Morris et al. (U.S. Patent 5,862,372)



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- Morris et al. discloses a computer implemented application development system permitting objects to be graphically inserted into the program.

### *Conclusion*

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a).

Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Antonio Caschera whose telephone number is (703) 305-1391. The examiner can normally be reached Monday-Thursday and alternate Fridays between 7:00 AM and 4:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Matthew Bella, can be reached at (703)-308-6829.

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**Any response to this action should be mailed to:**

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

**or faxed to:**

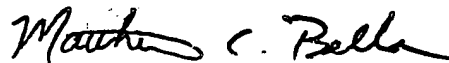
**(703) 872-9314 (for Technology Center 2600 only)**

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive,  
Arlington, VA, Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding  
should be directed to the Technology Center 2600 Customer Service Office whose telephone  
number is (703) 306-0377.

aac

2/12/04



MATTHEW C. BELLA  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600